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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 004066/CONS/MB

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
John F. Arackaparambil et al.) Group: 2786
Serial No.: 09/363,966) Art Unit:
Filed: 07/29/99) Examiner:
For: Computer Integrated)
Manufacturing Techniques)

51 ID>

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement

[X] is filed within three months after the filing date of a national application or three months after the date of entry of the national stage in an international application or before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits, whichever occurs last. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

[] is filed **before** the mailing date of either (a) a final action under § 1.113 or (b) a notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by
— certification as specified in § 1.97(e) or
— the fee set forth in § 1.17(p). 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c).

[] is filed **after** the mailing date of either (a) a final action under § 1.113 or (b) a notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first, but before the payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by

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- certification as specified in § 1.97(e);
- a petition requesting consideration; and
- the petition fee set forth in § 1.17(i)(1). 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

Applicants submit herewith patent(s), publication(s), or other information of which applicants are aware, which applicants believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25. Each reference is identified on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the references is supplied herewith.

A concise explanation of the items listed on PTO-1449 is:

- not given, since all items are in the English language
- given for only some listed non-English language item(s)
- given for each listed item, since all are non-English language documents

The following printed publications are referred to in the body of the specification:

U.S. Pat. No.: 5,754,297, to Nulman, 1998
U.S. Pat. No.: 5,698,989, to Nulman, 1997
U.S. Pat. No.: 5,236,868, to Nulman, 1993
U.S. Pat. No.: 5,108,570, to Wang, 1990

W.R. Runyan et al., Semiconductor Integrated Circuit Processing Technology, Addison-Wesley Publ. Comp. Inc., p. 48, 1994
Peter van Zandt, Microchip Fabrication, 3rd. ed., McGraw-Hill, pp. 472-478, 1997
R. Zorich, Handbook Of Quality Integrated Circuit Manufacturing, Academic Press Inc., pp. 464-498, 1991
SEMI E10-96 Standard For Definition And Measurement Of Equipment Reliability And Maintainability, (RAM), published by Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International (SEMI), pp. 1-23, 1996

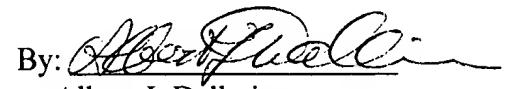
Applicants have become aware of the following printed publications which may be material to the examination of this application:

U.S. Pat. No.: 5,910,011, to Cruse, 1999
U.S. Pat. No.: 5,398,336, to Tantry et al., 1995
U.S. Pat. No.: 5,367,624, to Cooper, 1994
U.S. Pat. No.: 5,295,242, to Mashruwala et al., 1994

Applicants respectfully submit that the invention claimed in the above identified application is patentable over the references known to applicants and disclosed herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 21, 2000

By: 
Albert J. Dalhuisen
Reg. No.: 36,117



04-24-00

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Attorney Docket: 004066/CONS/MBE

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Group Art Unit: 2786
John F. Arackaparambil et al.) Examiner:
Serial No.: 09/363,966)
For: Computer Integrated) **TRANSMITTAL LETTER**
Manufacturing Techniques)
Filed: 07/29/99)
)
For: Computer Integrated)
Manufacturing Techniques)
)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL

Enclosed for the above-identified patent application please find:

- Information Disclosure Statement
- Form PTO-1449
- Copies of 12 references

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$ to Deposit Account No. 01-1651

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-1651. A duplicate of this transmittal is enclosed.

Please address all correspondence to:

**PATENT COUNSEL
APPLIED MATERIAL, INC.
Legal Affairs Department
P.O. Box 450 A
Santa Clara, CA 95052**

Respectfully submitted,
LAW OFFICE of ALBERT J. DALHUISEN

Dated: April 21, 2000

By: Albert J. Dalhuisen

Albert J. Dalhuisen
Reg. No. 36, 117
Attorney for Applicant

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope to: Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
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Date of Deposit April 21, 2000

Signature Albert J. Dalhuisen

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